

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1-64 (cancelled)

Claim 65 (new): A method of creating and managing a group of mobile stations for a communication session in a communications network, the communication session being one in which users of respective mobile stations communicate with one another, the method comprising:

publishing information about one or more particular users of respective mobile stations to the communications network; and

receiving at least one rule defining a member of the group, the at least one rule defining group members based on criteria comprising published information about respective users of mobile stations, the at least one rule being received in association with a group address; and

dynamically populating the group with members, the populating comprising:

determining mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network that matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule; and

populating the group with the mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network that matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule.

Claim 66 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the published information criteria of the at least one rule comprises at least one characteristic of respective users of mobile stations.

Claim 67 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the published information criteria of the at least one rule comprises at least one personal preference and/or at least one common interest of respective users of mobile stations.

Claim 68 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the published information criteria of the at least one rule comprises published location information of respective users of mobile stations.

Claim 69 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the at least one rule is further defined by a group of pre-selected mobile stations from which to define the group.

Claim 70 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the at least one rule further defined by additional criteria comprising location information about mobile stations managed by the communications network, the step of dynamically populating the group further comprising:

determining if the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations matches the location information criteria of the at least one rule; and

wherein the group is populated with members consisting of mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network and location information that matches the published information criteria and location information criteria of the at least one rule respectively.

Claim 71 (new): The method of claim 70, wherein the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations is stored on one or more network servers.

Claim 72 (new): The method of claim 70, wherein the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations is stored on one or more network servers in Xtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

Claim 73 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the at least one rule is stored on one or more network servers in Xtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

Claim 74 (new): The method of claim 65, further comprising sending a notification to each member of the group in response to the populating, the notification identifying the respective mobile station or its user as a member of the group.

Claim 75 (new): The method of claim 74, wherein the notification identifying at least some of the other mobile stations or users of respective membership as members of the group.

Claim 76 (new): The method of claim 75, wherein the notification excludes anonymous members of the group.

Claim 77 (new): The method of claim 76, further comprising sending a notification to each member of the group identifying an anonymous member of the group when the anonymous member actively participates in the group.

Claim 78 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein one or more members of the group may be anonymous members in accordance with the published information about the one or more particular users on the communications network, the at least one rule defining capabilities of anonymous members to passively and/or actively participates in the group.

Claim 79 (new): The method of claim 65, comprising receiving two or more rules defining a member of the group, the two or more rules being received in association with a common group address, the group being dynamically populated with members in accordance with the two or more rules and at least the published information about the one or more particular users on the communications network.

Claim 80 (new): The method of claim 79, wherein one of the two or more rules is defined by criteria comprising location information managed by the communications network, the group being dynamically populated with members in accordance with the two or more rules, published information about one or more particular users on the communications network, and location information about one or more particular mobile stations of the communications network.

Claim 81 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the step of determining comprises requesting and receiving notification of one or more particular mobile stations which match the at least one rule.

Claim 82 (new): The method of claim 81, wherein the step of determining comprises requesting and receiving notification that no particular mobile stations match the at least one rule.

Claim 83 (new): The method of claim 81, further comprising subscribing to at least one server which provides notification that one or more particular mobile stations match the at least one rule.

Claim 84 (new): The method of claim 83, further comprising determining an address for each of the at least one server for subscribing, the address being determined from a resource list of addresses for such servers.

Claim 85 (new): The method of claim 81, further comprising receiving notification of individual matching mobile stations as the individual matching mobile stations are determined by the at least one server to hasten the populating.

Claim 86 (new): The method of claim 65, further comprising maintaining the group, removing one or more particular mobile stations or users as a member of the group in accordance with the at least one rule.

Claim 87 (new): The method of claim 86, further comprising receiving notification that one or more particular mobile stations or users no longer matches the at least one rule.

Claim 88 (new): The method of claim 65, further comprising receiving a change of the at least one rule and managing the members of the group in accordance with the change wherein the step of managing comprises at least one of adding and removing members to the group.

Claim 89 (new): The method of claim 65, further comprising extending a search for mobile stations matching the at least one rule.

Claim 90 (new): The method of claim 89, wherein the subscribing to at least one server extends the search to at least one of different domains and networks.

Claim 91 (new): The method of claim 83, further comprising further subscribing by one or more of the at least one server to one or more other such servers to extend a search for mobile stations matching the at least one rule.

Claim 92 (new): The method of claim 91, wherein the further subscribing extends the search for mobile stations to comprise a home network and a roaming network of a first mobile station.

Claim 93 (new): The method of claim 65, wherein the group comprises a mayday group and the method comprises:

receiving a request from a first mobile station to initiate a group communication with at least one second communication device proximate to the first mobile station; and

populating the mayday group with particular ones of the mobile stations determined in response to pre-defined rules for the mayday group.

Claim 94 (new): A server for creating and managing a group of mobile stations a communication session in a communications network, the communication session being one in which users of respective mobile stations communicate with one another, the server comprising:

a communication system for transmitting and receiving messages via the communications network;

a processor coupled to the communication system for processing messages;
and

memory coupled to the processor for storing instructions to configure the processor to:

publish information about one or more particular users of respective mobile stations to the communications network; and

receive at least one rule defining a member of the group, the at least one rule defining group members based on criteria comprising published information about respective users of mobile stations, the at least one rule being received in association with a group address; and

dynamically populate the group with members, the populating comprising:

determining mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network that matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule; and

populating the group with the mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network that matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule.

Claim 95 (new): The server of claim 94, wherein the memory further stores instructions to configure the processor to wherein the published information criteria of the at least one rule comprises at least one characteristic of respective users of mobile stations.

Claim 96 (new): The server of claim 94, wherein the memory further stores instructions to configure the processor to wherein the published information criteria of the at least one rule comprises at least one personal preference and/or at least one common interest of respective users of mobile stations.

Claim 97 (new): The server of claim 94, wherein the memory further stores instructions to configure the processor to wherein the published information criteria of the at least one rule comprises published location information of respective users of mobile stations.

Claim 98 (new): The server of claim 94, wherein the memory further stores instructions to configure the processor to wherein the at least one rule is further defined by a group of pre-selected mobile stations from which to define the group.

Claim 99 (new): The server of claim 94, wherein the at least one rule further defined by additional criteria comprising location information managed by the communications network, the step of dynamically populating the group further comprising:

determining if the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations matches the location information criteria of the at least one rule; and

wherein the group is populated with members consisting of mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network and location information that matches the published information criteria and location information criteria of the at least one rule respectively.

Claim 100 (new): The server of claim 99, wherein the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations is stored on one or more network servers.

Claim 101 (new): The server of claim 99, wherein the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations is stored on one or more network servers in Xtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

Claim 102 (new): The server of claim 94, wherein the at least one rule is stored on one or more network servers in Xtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

Claim 103 (new): A method of operating a server for creating and managing a group of mobile stations for a communication session in a communications network, the communication session being one in which users of respective mobile stations communicate with one another, the method comprising:

publishing information about one or more particular users of respective mobile stations to the communications network; and

receiving at least one rule defining a member of the group, the at least one rule defining group members based on criteria comprising published information about

respective users of mobile stations, the at least one rule being received in association with a group address; and

dynamically populating the group with members, the populating comprising:

determining mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network that matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule; and

populating the group with the mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network that matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule.

Claim 104 (new): A mobile station for initiating a communication session among other mobile stations in a communication network, the communication session being one in which users of respective mobile stations communicate with one another, the mobile station comprising:

a transceiver adapted to transmit and receive messages via the communication network;

a processor coupled to the transceiver, the processor adapted to process messages; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory adapted to store instructions to configure the processor to:

transmit, to a server adapted to create and manage a group of mobile stations, information to be published to the communications network about one or more particular users of respective mobile stations; and

transmit at least one rule defining a member of the group to the server, the at least one rule defining group members based on criteria comprising published information about respective users of mobile stations,

wherein the at least one rule is associated with a group address and is used to populate the group with members consisting of mobile stations having respective

users having published information about the one or more particular users on the communications network matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule.

Claim 105 (new): The mobile station of claim 104, wherein the memory is further adapted to store instructions to configure the processor to transmit information to the server for publication comprising at least one characteristic of the user of the mobile station.

Claim 106 (new): The mobile station of claim 104, wherein the memory is further adapted to store instructions to configure the processor to transmit information to the server for publication comprising at least one personal preference and/or at least one common interest of the user of the mobile station.

Claim 107 (new): The mobile station of claim 104, wherein the memory is further adapted to store instructions to configure the processor to transmit information to the server for publication comprising at published location information of the user of the mobile station.

Claim 108 (new): The mobile station of claim 104, wherein the memory is further adapted to store instructions to configure the processor to transmit the at least one rule being further defined by a group of pre-selected mobile stations from which to define the group.

Claim 109 (new): The mobile station of claim 104, wherein the memory is further adapted to store instructions to configure the processor to transmit the at least one rule being further defined by additional criteria comprising location information, wherein the location information is used to determine whether the one or more particular mobile stations matches the location information criteria of the at least one rule, and

the group is populated with members consisting of mobile stations having respective users with published information on the communications network and location information that matches the published information criteria and location information criteria of the at least one rule respectively.

Claim 110 (new): The mobile station of claim 109, wherein the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations is stored on one or more network servers.

Claim 111 (new): The mobile station of claim 109, wherein the location information about the one or more particular mobile stations is stored on one or more network servers in Xtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

Claim 112 (new): The mobile station of claim 104, wherein the at least one rule is stored on one or more network servers in Xtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

Claim 113 (new): A method of operating a mobile station for initiating a communication session among other mobile stations in a communication network, the communication session being one in which users of respective mobile stations communicate with one another, the method comprising:

transmitting information about one or more particular users of respective mobile stations to a server adapted to create and manage a group for publishing to the communications network; and

transmitting the at least one rule defining a member of the group to the server, the at least one rule defining group members based on criteria comprising published information about respective users of mobile stations,

wherein the at least one rule is associated with a group address and is used to populate the group with members consisting of mobile stations having respective users having published information about the one or more particular users on the communications network matches the published information criteria of the at least one rule.

Claim 114 (new): A method of creating and managing a group of mobile stations for a communication session in a communications network, the communication session being one in which users of respective mobile stations communicate with one another, the group being associated with a group address and being defined by at least one rule, the method comprising:

publishing an interest of one or more users to the communications network;
and

determining mobile stations having respective users with an interest published to the communications network which matches an interest for participating in the group defined by the at least one rule; and

dynamically populating the group with members comprising mobile stations having respective users with an interest published to the communications network which matches the interest for participating in the group defined by the at least one rule.

Claims 115 (new): The method of claim 114, wherein the publishing step comprises publishing an interest in participating in a particular dynamic group or an interest in participating in dynamic groups generally.

Claim 116 (new): The method of claim 114, wherein the publishing step comprises publishing an interest comprises at least one personal preference and/or at least one common interest of respective user.

Claim 117 (new): The method of claim 114, wherein mobile stations are determined from a subset of pre-selected mobile stations or pre-selected users of the mobile stations.